

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A process for hydrogenating aromatic nitro compounds to the corresponding amines in the presence of hydrogenation catalysts, which comprises using hydrogenation catalysts in which nickel and platinum are present on a support in the form of an alloy having an atomic ratio of nickel to platinum in the alloy of between 30:70 and 70:30.

Claim 2 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein the aromatic nitro compound used is dinitrotoluene.

Claim 3 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein the atomic ratio of nickel to platinum in the alloy is between 40:60 and 60:40.

Claim 4 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein the atomic ratio of nickel to platinum in the alloy is between 45:55 and 55:45.

Claim 5 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein the catalyst is used in an amount of from 0.01 to 10% by weight, based on the reaction mixture.

Claim 6 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein the catalyst is used in an amount of from 0.1 to 5% by weight, based on the reaction mixture.

Claim 7 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein the catalyst is used in an amount of from 0.2 to 2% by weight, based on the reaction mixture.

Claim 8 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein the hydrogenation is carried out at a temperature in the range from 80 to 250°C.

Claim 9 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein the catalyst used is used at its loading limit.

Claim 10 (Original): A catalyst for hydrogenating dinitrotoluene to tolylenediamine, which comprises nickel and platinum on a support in the form of an alloy having an atomic ratio of nickel to platinum in the alloy of between 40:60 and 60:40.

Claim 11 (Original): The catalyst according to claim 10, wherein the atomic ratio of nickel to platinum in the alloy is between 45:55 and 55:45.

Claim 12 (Original): The catalyst according to claim 10, wherein the support is selected from the group comprising activated carbon, carbon black, graphite and metal oxide.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A method of using a catalyst ~~The use of catalysts~~ according to claim 10 for hydrogenating dinitrotoluene to tolylenediamine, wherein the nickel to platinum atomic ratio in the alloy is between 30:70 and 70:30. ~~Nickel to platinum in the alloy of between 30:70 and 70:30 present.~~